

Case 2772

Chrysobothris Eschscholtz, 1829 and *Dicerca* Eschscholtz, 1829 (Insecta, Coleoptera): proposed conservation as the correct original spellings

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Abstract. The purpose of this application is the conservation of the buprestid generic names *Chrysobothris* and *Dicerca* Eschscholtz, 1829. The names originally appeared as *Chrysobotris* and *Dicerea*, but those spellings have not been used.

1. The spellings *Chrysobotris* and *Dicerea* were published by Eschscholtz (1829, p. 9). Since the names appear only once, it is impossible to verify from the original paper that misspellings were involved. However, Dr. M.G. Volkovitsh (in litt.) reports that Dr. G. Ljubarskij has examined the original collection of Eschscholtz in the Zoological Museum of Moscow and the spellings *Dicerca* and *Chrysobothris* were used on the labels.

2. The spelling *Chrysobothris* (meaning 'gold pits') has been used by all authors from the time of Solier (1833, p. 310) to the present, except Westwood ([1838], p. 24) who used the original spelling *Chrysobotris*.

3. In the case of *Dicerca*, this spelling has been used by all authors from Faldermann (1835, p. 143), Spinola (1837, p. 102) and Mannerheim (1837, p. 53) to the present, except Westwood ([1838], p. 24) who used the spelling *Diceraea*; the Commission Secretariat has a list of 31 references. Leraut (1983, p. 6) drew attention to Eschscholtz's 'lapsus calami' in recording the genus name *Dicerea*, a name that makes no sense (the Greek roots *dis* = two and *cercos* = tail, by alluding to the elytral prolongations, make the correct spelling *Dicerca*). He pointed out that although most authors had used *Dicerca* 'Lacordaire, 1835' this is an unjustified emendation of *Dicerea* Eschscholtz and only the earlier name should be used, in accordance with the Code. He also suggested that the corresponding tribe should be DICEREINI and not DICERCINI as used at present.

4. Westwood ([1838], p. 24) designated *Buprestis chrysostigma* Linnaeus, 1758 (p. 409) as the type species of *Chrysobothris* (spelt *Chrysobotris*) Eschscholtz, 1829, and *Buprestis aenea* Linnaeus, 1761 (p. 213) as the type species of *Dicerca* (spelt *Diceraea*) Eschscholtz, 1829. The type species designations in Westwood's *Synopsis of the genera of British insects* were accepted as valid in Opinion 71 (January 1922). The dates of publication of the work were set out in Direction 63 (June 1957).

5. *Chrysobothris* and *Dicerca* are the type genera of CHRYSOBOTHRINI Gory & Laporte, [1839] and DICERCINI ('Dicercites') Kerremans, 1893 (p. 107).

6. The International Commission on Zoological Nomenclature is accordingly asked:

- (1) to use its plenary powers to rule that the correct original spellings of the generic names *Chrysobothris* Eschscholtz, 1829 and *Dicerea* Eschscholtz, 1829 are *Chrysobothris* and *Dicerca* respectively;
- (2) to place on the Official List of Generic Names in Zoology the following names:
 - (a) *Chrysobothris* Eschscholtz, 1829 (gender: feminine), type species by subsequent designation by Westwood ([1838]) *Buprestis chrysostigma* Linnaeus, 1758;
 - (b) *Dicerca* Eschscholtz, 1829 (gender: feminine), type species by subsequent designation by Westwood ([1838]) *Buprestis aenea* Linnaeus, 1761;
- (3) to place on the Official List of Specific Names in Zoology the following names:
 - (a) *chrysostigma* Linnaeus, 1758, as published in the binomen *Buprestis chrysostigma* (specific name of the type species of *Chrysobothris* Eschscholtz, 1829);
 - (b) *aenea* Linnaeus, 1761, as published in the binomen *Buprestis aenea* (specific name of the type species of *Dicerca* Eschscholtz, 1829);
- (4) to place on the Official Index of Rejected and Invalid Generic Names in Zoology the following names:
 - (a) *Chrysobothris* Eschscholtz, 1829 (ruled in (1) above to be an incorrect original spelling of *Chrysobothris* Eschscholtz, 1829);
 - (b) *Dicerea* Eschscholtz, 1829 (ruled in (1) above to be an incorrect original spelling of *Dicerca* Eschscholtz, 1829).

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